

# INFORMATION REPORT    INFORMATION REPORT

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY	USSR (Baltic)	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Soviet Warships in the Baltic Sea	DATE DISTR.	12 August 1955
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PLACE ACQUIRED		REFERENCES	
DATE ACQUIRED		This is UNEVALUATED Information	

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APPROVAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

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1. At 1400 hours on 8 May 1955 at approximate position N 59-30, E 23-20, six minesweepers in a formation line of bearing 135 or 225 degrees relative<sup>1</sup> were underway on a course of WSW with sweeping gear in the water. After [ ] vessel passed the formation on an ENE course the minesweepers came about and proceeded on the same course as [ ] vessel. All the minesweepers were alike. Each had one funnel and at a speed of 5 or 6 knots were smoking badly.<sup>2</sup>
2. About 5 nautical miles closer to the Estonian coast there was a similar formation of six minesweepers.
3. At 0900 hours on 13 May 1955, off Pakri light outside Paldiski, two submarines [ ] were cruising on an easterly course.<sup>3</sup> They were about 60 meters in length. No flag was visible. (See sketch No. 1)
4. Off Takoma light (sic)<sup>4</sup> at 1100 hours 13 May, there was a naval vessel without guns on a westerly course. It was about 90 meters long with two masts and one funnel. (See sketch No. 2)
5. At 0600 hours on 20 May approximately 30 nautical miles east to south of Dueodde, Bornholm, there were 15 unidentified warships without ensigns underway on a northeasterly course at a speed of approximately 15 knots. The formation was possibly 3 rows of 5 vessels each. Fourteen of the vessels were alike, each with two funnels and two masts and a flat (sic) stern. They were 100 meters long, with two gun mounts forward and two aft. There was considerable AA ordnance around the foremast. [ ]
6. The other was a smaller vessel [ ] It was 50 or 60 meters long with a flush deck, raked bow, and a cruiser stern. It had one large gun on the foredeck and a small one on the afterdeck.

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STATE	x	ARMY	x	NAVY	# x	AIR	x	FBI		AEC			
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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#")

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1.   Comment:   is not clear on this point.
2.   Comment: These are probably Soviet minesweepers of the T 700 class which, judging from the formation, probably swept with Orayusa tackle.
3.   Comment: The same two submarine   were seen in Ventspils in the last part of April. From the sketch, they would appear to be W-class boats.
4.   Comment: U.S. Hydrographic office Light List Vol VI 1955 includes a Takhuna light at N 59-23, E 24-02, a position 50 nautical miles from Pakri light, and a Tallholm light at N 60-12, E 21-42, a position 90 nautical miles from Pakri light, but no Takoma light.

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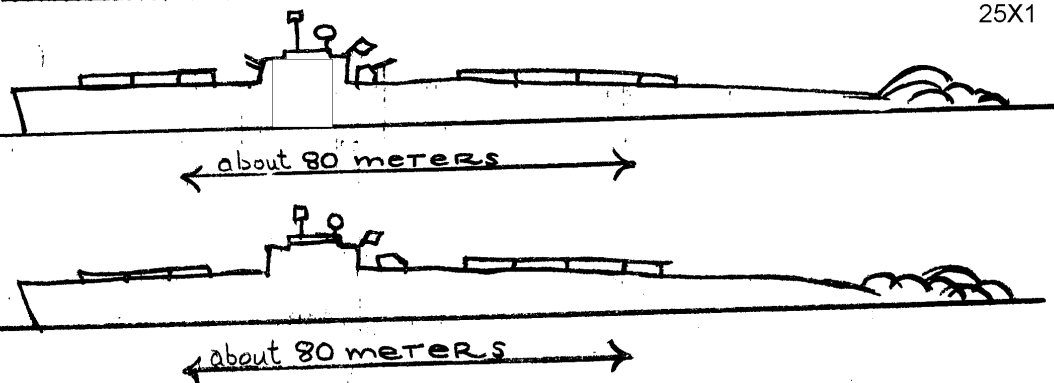
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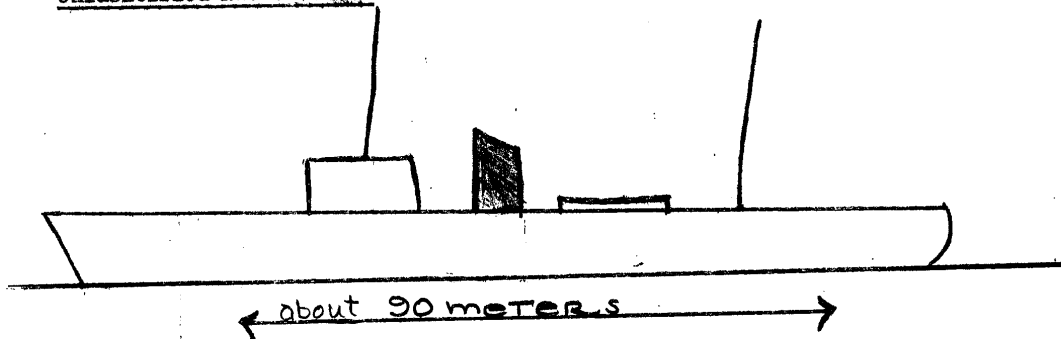
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Sketch No. 1:  
Submarines off Paldiski

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Sketch No. 2:  
Unidentified Naval Vessel



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